



Nebraska Weather and Crops

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service
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Agricultural Summary: For the week ending April 9, 2006, most of Nebraska continued to receive moisture last week making conditions too wet for field work in many northern and eastern counties. Soil moisture levels were above last year and average with soil temperatures above fifty degrees for the first time this season. Fertilizer was being applied in the drier parts of the state and a few fields of corn had been planted. Farm stored grain was being moved to market.

Weather Summary: Temperatures averaged three to four degrees above normal. Soil temperatures moved five degrees higher during the week but were three to five degrees below year ago levels.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable: Nebraska, Week Ending April 9, 2006

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Topsoil				
Very Short	1	1	3	14
Short	10	11	23	27
Adequate	69	82	71	57
Surplus	20	6	3	2
Subsoil				
Very Short	13	13	18	26
Short	27	40	36	41
Adequate	59	47	46	33
Surplus	1	0	0	0
Days Suitable	2.9	1.5	5.2	4.3

Field Crops Report: Wheat conditions were almost unchanged and rated 3 percent very poor, 7 poor, 36 fair, 49 good, and 5 excellent. This is below last year but better than average. Poorest conditions exist in southwestern counties. Wheat jointed was at 1 percent, behind 9 percent last year and 4 percent average.

Oats planting was slow due to wet soils and increased to 27 percent, well behind last year at 69 and average at 44. Three percent had emerged, behind 18 percent last year and 7 percent average.

Sugarbeet planting showed limited progress and was 7 percent complete, behind last year at 17.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending April 9, 2006

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
<i>Percent</i>				
Oats Planted	27	13	69	44
Oats Emerged	3	1	18	7
Wheat Jointed	1		9	4

Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending April 9, 2006

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>Percent</i>					
Alfalfa	1	3	25	59	12
Wheat	3	7	36	49	5

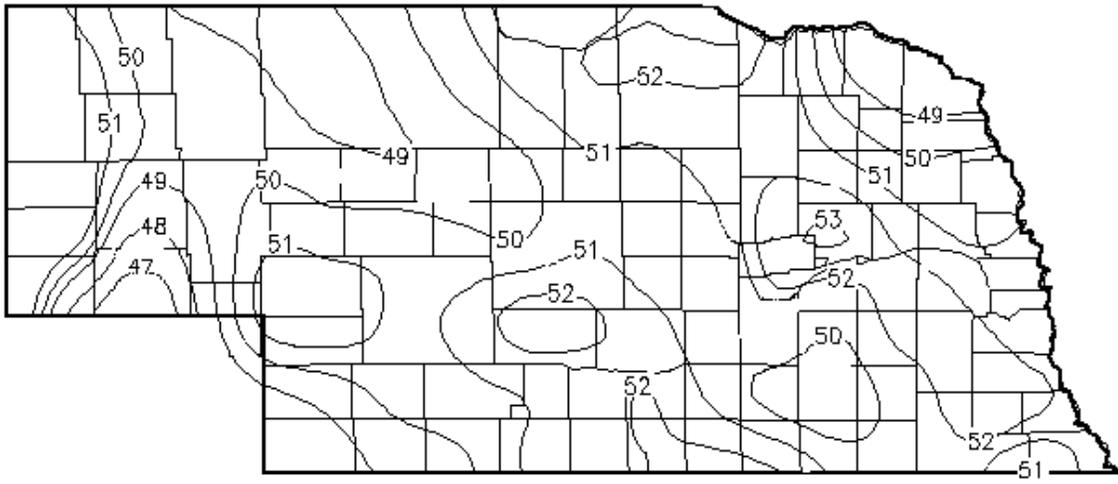
Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range conditions rated 6 percent poor, 34 fair, 53 good, and 7 excellent, above last year. Cattle and calf condition rated mostly good. Spring calving was 82 percent complete, near year ago levels. Despite the wet conditions of the past weeks, calf losses continued to rate average to below average.

This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Regional Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at:

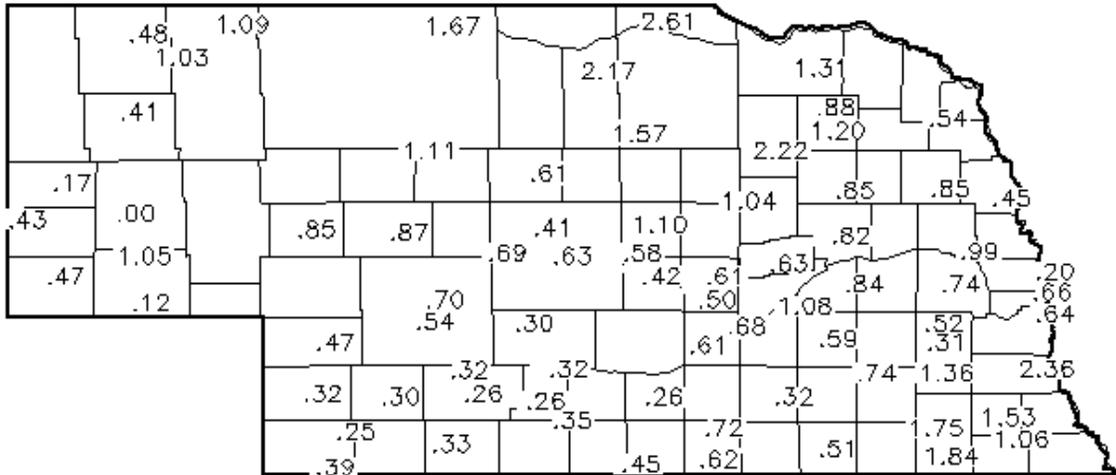
http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm. For those receiving an e-mail text version of this publication, a complete version including crop progress charts and precipitation maps can be found at:

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Nebraska/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/index.asp

**Average Temperature at the Four Inch Depth Under Bare Soil
April 3 – April 9, 2006**



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending 8:00 a.m. April 9, 2006



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 – April 9, 2006

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.58	1.82	1.04	.65	.78	.34	.41	1.23
Total since April 1	.59	2.18	1.27	.93	1.24	.36	.56	1.76
Normal since April 1	.49	.60	.71	.69	.78	.53	.57	.79
Total as % of normal	117%	367%	183%	137%	159%	67%	101%	217%

Temperature: By District, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, April 9, 2006

Station	Temperature				
	Extremes		Average	Departure	
	High	Low			
NW	Alliance	79	24	48	+5
	Scottsbluff	81	23	50	+7
	Sidney	78	19	47	+3
NC	Ainsworth	82	24	51	+5
	Arthur	82	21	48	+3
	O'Neill	77	25	50	+4
NE	Concord	85	26	51	+3
	Elgin	81	27	50	+3
	West Point	85	29	51	+3
C	Grand Island	82	30	51	+4
	Lexington	78	26	51	+5
	Ord	78	26	50	+4
EC	Lincoln	87	31	53	+4
	Central City	84	28	51	+4
	Mead	87	27	52	+3
SW	Champion	81	17	46	+1
	North Platte	na	na	na	na
	Curtis	78	23	49	+3
SC	Smithfield	77	26	50	+4
	Minden	80	27	51	+4
	Red Cloud	81	29	52	+5
SE	Beatrice	85	31	52	+4
	Clay Center	84	28	51	+3
	Nemaha	86	31	56	+6

na = Not available.

Source: High Plains Regional Climate Center and Nebraska State Climate Office